

AL-I-C-005

MERTEN'S OFFICE BUILDING

Merten's Avenue and Western Maryland Railroad
ca. 1860

The Merten's Office Building originally housed the offices for the Merten's Company, a family which owned, among other things, several orchards. Although the building is being demolished, it was originally a two story, three bay wide, rectangular structure covered with weather boarding.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

AL-I-C-005

0101085411

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Merten's Office Building (Merten's Orchard)
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Merten's Avenue & Western Md. R.R.

CITY, TOWN

N. E. of Paw Paw

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Sixth

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Allegany

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

☐ STRUCTURE

☐ SITE

☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS

☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED

☒ UNOCCUPIED

☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED

☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED

☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE

☒ COMMERCIAL

☐ EDUCATIONAL

☐ ENTERTAINMENT

☐ GOVERNMENT

☐ INDUSTRIAL

☐ MILITARY

☐ MUSEUM

☐ PARK

☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

☐ RELIGIOUS

☐ SCIENTIFIC

☐ TRANSPORTATION

☐ OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Burkey

Telephone #: 729-3636

STREET & NUMBER

900 National Highway

CITY, TOWN

LaVale

☐ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Allegany County Courthouse

Liber #: 328

Folio #: 101

STREET & NUMBER

30 Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Cumberland,

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

AL-I-C-005

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Merten's Office Building is located on Merten's Avenue near the Western Maryland Railroad and the Greenridge Tunnel, Allegany Co.

Merten's Office Building is a two story, three bay wide rectangular building. It is covered with weatherboard and originally had a gabled roof. The entire structure rests on a low stone foundation. Lights in the windows are gone, but the windows themselves are pegged wooden sash frames. The main facade has been dismantled but it originally included a recessed porch which covered the main entrance. A single corbeled brick chimney is located at the flush end of the building. The rear of the building, which is still intact, has a prominent overhang on the second floor.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Although it is very deteriorated the Merten's Office Building originally housed the offices for the Merten's Company, a group which owned, among other things, several orchards.¹ At one time the building was located opposite the Western Maryland Railroad Station, and was often mistaken for the station itself. Amongst their other concerns, it is known that the Merten family were also prominent boat builders for the C & O Canal.²

The Merten's Building is presently in the process of being demolished. It was, however, an important landmark of the wealth produced through a family business.

- ¹ Allegany County Land Records, Cumberland, Maryland
- ² George "Hooper" Wolf, I Drove Mules on the C & O Canal. (Dover, Delaware: Dover Graphic Associates, 1970) p. 193

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Allegany County Land Records, Cumberland, Maryland

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 26 Acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

John Nelson, Joan Baldwin, & Steve Beale

ORGANIZATION

Allegany County Historic Sites Survey

DATE

9/2/76

STREET & NUMBER

547 National Highway

TELEPHONE

777-8991

CITY OR TOWN

LaVale,

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

INVENTORY NO. A-I-C-005

328/121

DATE: 8/20/76

26.4

DEMOLITION: Drastic, moderate, minor

NAME OF PROPERTY: Martens Office Building (Martens Orchard)LOCATION OF PROPERTY: 1125555 Ave. * 1125555 Ave. R.R.DIRECTION DWELLING FACES: North westNAME OF OWNER: Burkey 729-3636ADDRESS: 211 N. ...Larale, Md.STORIES: 1() 2(☒) 3(~~3~~) 4() 5() 6() BAYS: 1() 2() 3(☒) 4() 5() 6() 7() ()WINGS, ADDITIONS: 1 wingDwelling Shape: (square, cross, rectangular)

WALL CONSTRUCTION:

- (☒) FRAME: Bevel, clapboard, weatherboard, wood shingles, board & batten (type?)
() BRICK: Bond type- common, English, Flemish. Sketch variants.
() STONE: Bond type- rubble, ashlar (random or regular), quoins-plain, rusticated
() LOG
() Other: Coverings

WALL FEATURES: BELT COURSE, PILASTERS, OTHERS PlainFOUNDATIONS: HIGH, LOW, BRICK, STONE

WATER TABLE: NONE, PLAIN, BEVELED, MOULDED BRICK

WINDOWS, TRIM, SHUTTERS: 1/1() 2/2() 6/6() 9/6() 9/9() other()
pegged() nailed() wide() narrow() mitred() pediment()

ENTRANCE, DOORS: LOCATION: _____

HARDWARE: original() replaced()

FAN LIGHT, TRANSCOM, SIDE LIGHTS, PLAIN

Paneled, Verticle, Horizontal Boards

CORNICE, BARGE, EAVES: (crown, fascia, soffit, bed)

original() replaced() Rafter Ends, Modillions, Dentils, Frieze,

Architrave

ROOF: GABLE FRONT, GABLE FLANK, HIP, SHED, LANSARD, GAMBREL, FLAT, FORMERS # _____

MATERIAL: wood shingles, slate, tin, asphalt original() replaced()

PORCHES: SHAPE OF ROOF - shed() hip() gable()

CHIMNEYS: NUMBER _____ BRICK() STONE() CORBELLED() original() replaced()

LOCATION: Flush end() Inside end() Outside end() Central() Interior()

ARCHES: Door and window: Keystone, Flat, Segmental, Semicircular

COMMENTS:

Use - No Longer Used

Significance - Commercial

Date Constructed -

Condition - Being Demolished

Key points regarding interior architecture.

1. Floor plan

No through hall--How many rooms long and deep?
Where is stairway? Straight or winding?

With through hall--Rooms on both sides? How many?

Rooms on one side only? How many?

Is stair in through hall?

Open or enclosed? Straight--one run. Straight--landing

How many? Curved.

If not in hall, where is stair?

2. Wall finish: plaster, paneled, board partition

Note presence of chair rail, cornice, etc.

3. Fireplaces: How many? Parallel to walls or diagonal in corner?

Mantels: wood--mouldings, pilasters, columns
masonry--marble(what color?), brick

3. Doors: on the inside of exterior doors, note the presence of applied flush boards and their direction (diagonal, vertical, horizontal). In general are doors paneled or ledge or other?

4. Door and window trim: plain, architrave; fluted, reeded; pilasters

5. Kitchen: Where is original if extant or known (marked by very large fireplace)? Separate building; wing to principal dwelling; within principal dwelling? On which floor of any of the above?

6. NEW PERSONNEL OR WARD (IF ANY) ON ANY INTERIOR FLOORING, DOOR, ETC.

RANGLE C

PAW PAW
WEST VIRG
7.5 MINUTE SE
SW 1/4 PAW P

5363 NW
(ARTEMAS)

721

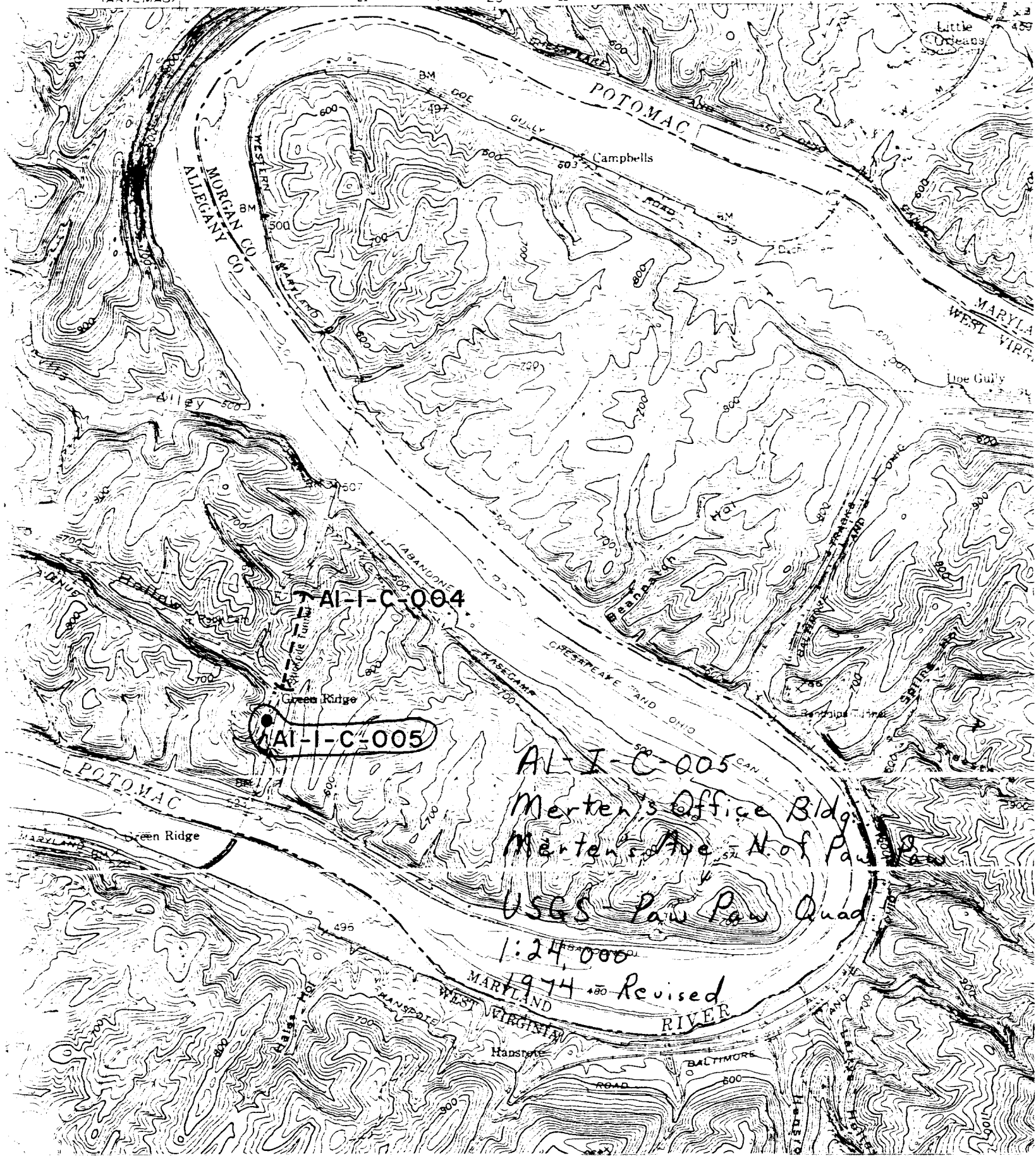
25'

722

723

2 310 000 FEET IN 1 A

724





Merten's Office Bldg.

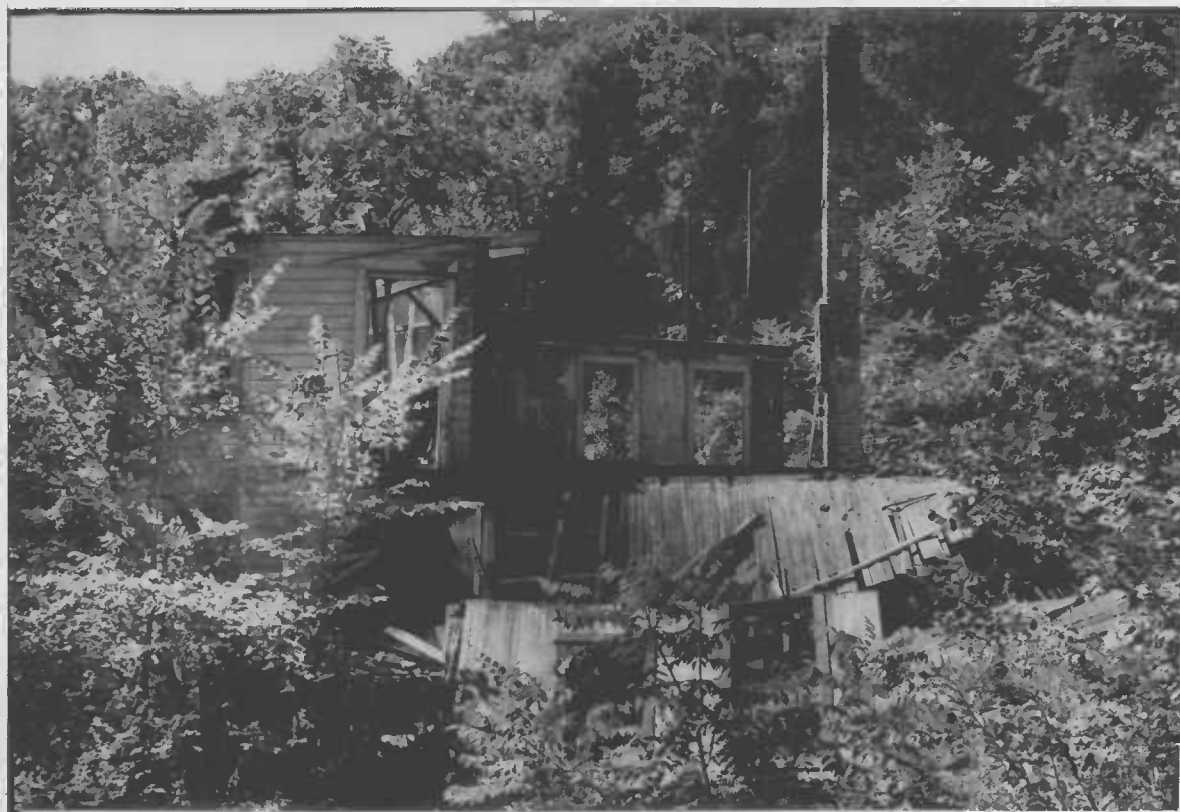
A1-I-C-005

Merten's Ave. N. of Paw Paw

John E. Nelson

8/20 /76

West



Merten's Office Bldg.

A1- I- C - 005

Merten's Ave - N. of Paw Paw

John E. Nelson

8/20/76

South